

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (currently amended) A universal hose clamp for locking a hose in position relative to the hose clamp comprising a universal hose locating mechanism, a hose coupling for connecting a the hose to the universal hose clamp locating mechanism, and a securing means for securing said locating mechanism to a support structure wherein the universal hose locating mechanism comprises a first locking mechanism which moves between a locked and an unlocked position such that when in the unlocked position the hose coupling has unlimited rotational movement about an axis in the horizontal plane.

2. (currently amended) A universal hose clamp as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the ~~support structure is an existing railing, pole or other similar structure~~ universal hose locating mechanism further comprises a second locking mechanism which moves between a locked and an unlocked position such that when in the unlocked position the hose coupling has unlimited rotational movement about an axis in the vertical plane.

3. (currently amended) A universal hose clamp as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the ~~securing means is a universal base clamping mechanism adapted for clamping onto the support structure~~ locking mechanisms comprise a handle assembly, a connection means and a stab pin wherein the locking mechanisms are in the locked positions when the handle assembly is in a plane parallel to the stab pin, and the unlocked position when the handle assembly is rotated to lie in a plane perpendicular to the stab pin.

4. (currently amended) A universal hose clamp as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the ~~support structure is a portable independent frame~~ securing means comprises a first female member suitable for receiving the stab pin of the second locking mechanism and a base clamping mechanism suitable for clamping the hose clamp to a support structure that comprises an existing railing or pole.

5. (currently amended) A universal hose clamp[[,]] as claimed in Claim [[4]] 2, wherein the securing means comprises the second locking mechanism and the support structure comprises a second female member, suitable for receiving the stab pin of the second locking mechanism, and a portable independent frame is a tripod.

6. (currently amended) A universal hose clamp[[,]] as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the ~~securing means is a locking mechanism adapted to lockably engage the hose locating mechanism to the support structure, wherein the locking mechanism comprises a male and female member that are adapted to lockably engage~~ portable independent frame is a tripod.

7. (currently amended) A universal hose clamp as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the hose ~~locating mechanism comprises a central mount, two Azimuth locking mechanisms and a quick release hose mount~~ coupling comprises a third female member suitable for receiving the stab pin of the first locking mechanism thus allowing the hose coupling to be removed from the universal hose locating mechanism when the first locking mechanism is in the unlocked position.

8. (currently amended) A universal hose clamp as claimed in Claim [[7]] 4, wherein ~~the Azimuth locking mechanism contained on the locating mechanism comprises a handle assembly, a connection means and a stab pin~~ when the second locking mechanism is in the locked position the stab pin of the second locking mechanism lockably engages with the first female member.

9. (currently amended) A universal hose clamp as claimed in Claim [[7]] 5, wherein ~~the Azimuth locking mechanism contained on the locating mechanism moves between a locked position when the handle assembly is in a plane parallel to the stab pin, and a locked position when the handle assembly is rotated through 90 degrees to lie in a plane perpendicular to the stab pin~~ when the second locking mechanism is in the locked position the stab pin of the second locking mechanism lockably engages with the second female member.

10. (currently amended) A universal hose clamp as claimed in Claim 7, wherein ~~the first Azimuth locking mechanism contained on the locating mechanism provides a means for rotating the hose coupling about an axis in the horizontal plane~~ when the first locking mechanism is in the locked position the stab pin of the first locking mechanism lockably engages with the third female member.

11. (currently amended) A universal hose clamp as claimed in Claim [[7]] 1, wherein ~~the second Azimuth locking mechanism contained on the locating mechanism provides a means for rotating the hose coupling about an axis in the vertical plane~~ hose coupling further comprises a gripping aid, a mounting band and a hose securing means.

12. (currently amended) A universal hose clamp as claimed in Claim 4 11, wherein the ~~hose coupling comprising a gripping aid, a mounting band and a securing means~~ is made of a flexible material comprising rubber.

13. (currently amended) A universal hose clamp as claimed in Claim 42 11, wherein the gripping aid is cylindrical in shape.

14. (currently amended) A universal hose clamp as claimed in Claim 42 11, wherein the ~~gripping aid is made of a flexible material, namely rubber~~ mounting band is cylindrical in shape.

15. (currently amended) A universal hose clamp as claimed in Claim 42 11, wherein the ~~mounting band is cylindrical in shape~~ hose securing means is a screw thread mechanism.

16-19. (cancelled)